

DATE 02/14/2013 HB 430

## MONTANA SECRETARY OF STATE

LINDA McCULLOCH

HB 430: Revise laws for Designation of Agent to Assist Voter House State Administration, RM 455 February 13, 2013 @ 8:00 a.m. Secretary of State Linda McCulloch's Testimony

Good morning Madam Chair, members of the Committee. For the record, I am Linda McCulloch, Montana Secretary of State.

This is an important bill that clarifies the right for an individual to designate an agent to assist them with the registration and voting process – and any other requested support throughout the election process.

This clarification ensures full compliance with existing law, and reinforces the right for every eligible individual to register and vote, including a Montanan with a disability that may prevent them from being able to mark a ballot, or sign and return a voter registration application.

I strongly urge a "yes" vote. Assuring that every Montanan has full access to elections is a core value and principle of our Democracy.